4.4 Project Consistency with an Adopted IRWM Plan

The applicant must provide a statement (not more than one page per project using minimum 10-point type font) which demonstrates that the project is either listed in the IRWM Plan project list or describes how any non-listed projects have been vetted through the RWMG.

The Kaweah River Basin IRWM Group has a formally adopted IRWM Plan that was approved by DWR in September 2014. With a formal IRWM Plan completed, there is now a set guide for the region's management of water supplies. The Plan includes the following primary water management elements:

- Programs for water supply reliability, water conservation and water use efficiency.
- Storm water capture, storage, treatment and management.
- Groundwater recharge, management and water quality projects.

All of these water management elements are employed to establish a flexible and dependable water supply that is consistent with the water availability issues that are sustainable given regional hydrology. Collectively, the implementation of these elements will improve the flexibility of the management systems which are in place to use surface water when it is available and by improving the reliability of local supplies by recharging as much groundwater as possible.

The Kaweah River Basin IRWM Region is primarily a conjunctive use region. There are portions in the east of the region that do not have usable groundwater supplies (LSID, SCID, IID, and EID), but the majority of the land within the region conjunctively uses surface water and groundwater. This means that for the majority of the region, groundwater is the only reliable supply of water available and surface water is used when possible to ensure that groundwater supplies are protected for when they are eventually needed (such as times of drought). Therefore, conjunctive use is a key water management element in the Kaweah River Basin IRWM plan. Consistent with this element, the non-local surface water supplies that are available to Basin conjunctive use districts are used to offset groundwater pumping and increase the reliability of local groundwater resources. Non-local wet year water is often imported to the area even though local supplies are plentiful, to supplement the local supplies. However, the non-local water is not a supply that the majority of lands in the region can rely or depend on.

The Kaweah River Basin IRWM Group believes the projects submitted in this Proposal are consistent with the Kaweah River Basin IRWM Plan and its water management elements as the projects address key needs or risk reduction for the region's water supply. **Table 4-1** lists proposed projects and their elements that are consistent with the approved Plan. While one of the projects in this Proposal is not specifically listed in the adopted IRWM Plan, both projects have been vetted through the RWM Group for inclusion in this Implementation Grant. The Well Abandonment Project with the County of Tulare is a continuation of the project listed in Table 13-1 of the IRWM Plan (see **Attachment 1 – Appendix C**), which also received funding during the 2011 Implementation Grant opportunity. The Conjunctive Exchange Program is very similar to the investigation/construction of groundwater recharge sites for the City of Visalia also listed in Table 13-1 of the IRWM Plan.

Table 4-1: Proposal Projects and their Consistency with IRWM Plan

Proposal Projects	Implementing Agencies	Consistent Element with IRWM Plan
Conjunctive Exchange Program	Tulare Irrigation District	Increases GW Recharge Capacity, Increases Water Supply Reliability, Reduces GW Overdraft
Well Abandonment Project	County of Tulare	Equitable Benefits to DACs, Protection of GW Quality, Increased Water Supply Reliability

In late 2010, a set of selection criteria was developed and accepted by a collaboration of the Kaweah River Basin IRWM group for the selection of implementation grant projects that were consistent with the priorities and policies of the region. The project submittals for this Implementation Grant Solicitation were received by the Regional Coordinator in May 2015. Each project submitted to the IRWM selection committee for review was evaluated and internally scored in an effort to be transparent. Projects were scored based on criteria developed by the group and those that scored well were approved the application process. This scoring criteria based it's scoring on items that are most beneficial to the IRWM group's regional water planning efforts. Each project was fully vetted at this meeting and was presented by the implementing agency. Based on the regional scoring criteria it was decided at that meeting that these two projects would be included in the Kaweah River Basin IRWM's 2015 Implementation Grant application. Each project selected showed that it had significant benefits to the region, had been developed by a local agency, had been identified in other planning documents as an important and necessary project, and that same local agency was willing and able to commit to the necessary cost share associated with the project.

ATTACHMENT 1 – AUTHORIZATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

APPENDIX C

Kaweah River Basin IRWM Plan List of Projects Table

TABLE 13-1
CURRENT PROJECTS LIST
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
KAWEAH DELTA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Submitting Entity	Project	Project Description Summary	Total Project Cost
Lakeside Irrigation Water District	Hanford Wastewater Reclamation Project	Proposes construction of two deep wells and a blending sturcture to enable full utilization/reclamation of wastewater from the Hanford tratment plant for use on non-edible crops.	$962,500
County of Tulare	Well Nitrate Contamination Study	Proposes designing and implementing a sampling program to identify the type and age of nitrate contamination in wells that exceed nitrate MCL's.	$500,000
County of Tulare	Tulare County Well Maintenance & Abandonment Project	Proposes to administer a voluntary compliance program for owner/operators of private wells in high risk areas. This will also involve an education element (will most likely be multiple projects).	$500,000
Tulare Irrigation District	Demaree Check Structure Modification	Proposes to continue distribution system modifications by installing additional Supervisory Control Acquisition and Data Analysis (SCADA) to increase the efficiency of water delivery.	$800,000
Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District	Construct New Groundwater Monitoring Wells	Proposes to modify existing structure to improve flood control ability.	$350,000
Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District	Construct New Drinking Water Well #9	Proposes to identify areas within the existing monitoring well network that are lacking proper coverage and construct monitoring wells in those voids to improve the evaluation of groundwater conditions	$500,000
Ivanhoe Public Utility District	Well Head Treatment Project	Proposes the drilling, casing and installation of appurtenances to develop groundwater from the underlying groundwater reservoir to compoensate for wells lost for constituents above MCLs.	$750,000
City of Lindsay	Reclaimed Water Use Project	Proposes to reduce electrical conductivity at a well site.	?
City of Lindsay	Canal Storage/Cross Exchange Project	Proposes to extend the "Well Head Treatment Project" to utilize treated water as a surface water supply for agricultural.	?
City of Lindsay		Proposes to improve year to year water supply reliability to the City by initiating either storage or a water exchange.	?
City of Visalia		Interconnection of existing storm water basins, parks and school turf to surface water ditch distribution system.	$2,500,000
City of Visalia		Enhanced water conservation program: Alternative landscape (xeriscape), grey water reuse, low flow toilets, etc.	$1,250,000
City of Visalia		Investigation/construction of groundwater recharge sites in and around the City.	$4,125,000
City of Visalia		Investigation of effective recharge rates for various waterways traversing the City including existing storm water basins.	$350,000